grafting of the so-called organizer upon a piece of living matter or protoplasm devoid of specific properties and capacities of growth and morphogenesis (a kind of living matter which probably does not exist and, in the nature of things, never could exist). But in every case the ' organizer' graft stimulates only the growth of tissues and organs whose specific properties are peculiar to the host on which the graft is planted. It seems quite clear, therefore, that the organizing activity is a function of the host, and not of the miscalled * organizer', and that the work or role of the latter is merely to initiate or release or stimulate or set a-going the organizing processes which by these authors are said to be caused by it, but which are the realization of intrinsic potentialities of the host-organism.

Both authors relate a wealth of facts which point quite unmistakably to this interpretation. Needham's more recent review of the evidence makes it clear that the ' organizer' is a relatively simple and pure chemical substance, a sterol-like substance.[1] And one substance of this particular chemical composition can serve as * organizer ' in many very different kinds of organisms, its action resulting in the organization in every case of tissues and organs proper to the species into which it is introduced.

[1] Facts of this kind are the ground of Huxley's amazing assertion that we are on the verge of being able to define the organizing power of the growing organism, the morphogenetic agency which builds up the specific form of the whole and of its every part and brings all the parts into due relation to one another all according to the vastly complex pattern of the

species, with a multitude of details determined by antecedents in the life of the species and its ancestry that may have occurred many millions of years ago, to define this central mystery of all life in some chemical formula and store it away in a well-stoppered glass bottle.
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